

#### R E M A R K S

By this amendment, claims 1, 7 and 9 are amended so as more clearly to define applicant's invention in view of the art cited by the examiner. In addition, the dependencies of claims 3-5 are changed to claim 1. Reconsideration of applicant's invention as defined in claims 1, 3-5, 7 and 9 is requested.

By the office action of April 26, 2005, the examiner rejected the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Roder in view of Gallo. The flower holder of Roder is intended for insertion into a hand-held carrier such as used by a bridesmaid and wherein live flowers are placed in support 1. The outer edges of extensions 15 of Roder are uncurved and adapted to fit adjacent the inner wall of the particular holder. Extensions 15 of Roder are not elongated extending 90 degrees from the shaft and, structurally, since extensions 15 are planar they could not deform vertically. The structure of applicant's extensions is different from that of Roder wherein applicant's extensions 2 are elongated and disposed substantially 90 degrees with respect to the shaft and further are vertically deformable. Of course the purpose of these features of applicant's invention is such that a user can push the flower holder into a cemetery vase wherein the extensions are deformed vertically thereby resulting in a snug fit and preventing unwanted separation of the flower holder from the cemetery vase. Since the flower holder extensions of Roder do not

deform vertically, it could not function to achieve applicant's result. If Roder's extensions extended beyond the inner wall of the vase, as in applicant's holder, it would not be possible to insert the Roder holder into the vase. For the these reasons, independent claims 1, 7 and 9 are believed allowable.

Dependent claims 3, 4 and 5 are believed allowable due to their dependencies on claim 1 and because they define further specific features of applicant's invention.

From the above, it is believed that this application is in condition for allowance. Therefore, reconsideration and allowance of claims 1, 3-5, 7 and 9 are requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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